

DOCUMENT NO. 81
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. X
☐ DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C 2011
NEXT REVIEW DATE: _____
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 120281 REVIEWER:

Executive Registry

30 January 1957

9-0203

MEMORANDUM FOR: A/DD/P/P

SUBJECT: Congressional Investigation of Middle Eastern Policies

1. Attached hereto is a memorandum from the Legislative Counsel to the Director, subject as above. The Director has approved the action recommended in this memorandum.

2. In connection with the work which we must do to prepare ourselves for this investigation, I would like to ask that you promptly constitute a Task Force and allocate the various jobs to be done. I would suggest that this Task Force include an appointee of the Acting Chief, FI, since in recent weeks the FI Staff has been involved in two or three exercises on intelligence coverage of Middle East developments.

4. It is not clear to me whether or not Iran will be included in this investigation. If it is, TPAJAX will inevitably come up in some form or other. We should decide among ourselves how this one is to be fielded by State.

5. These are a few of the many matters which we must review, and I gather that we do not have too much time to pull our material together. Please let me know if there is any particular assistance you need.

(Signed) Richard Helms

Richard Helms

Acting Deputy Director (Plans)

Attachment - ER-9-0096

cc: DCI
AC/FI
AC/NEA

1821

12530117

Legislation

ER 9-0096

29 January 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

SUBJECT: Congressional Investigation of Middle East Policies

This memorandum contains a recommendation submitted for DCI approval. Such recommendation is contained in paragraph 3.

1. Although it is too early to predict the exact lines of inquiry, it seems clear that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, possibly joined by the Armed Services Committee, is going to conduct an extensive investigation into U. S. policies in the Middle East over the last several years. As the Director knows, Senator Fulbright is the van of this movement, with apparent solid support from influential Democrats on both Committees concerned. According to newspaper reports, the investigation will start with the year 1946 and carry through to the present time.

2. I believe that we should anticipate the possibility of a requirement for a report on intelligence performance during any part of the above period, undoubtedly with emphasis on the events of the last eighteen months or so. In this connection, it is worth noting that Senator Fulbright, on 25 January 1957, entered into the Congressional Record the full text of six articles by Chalmers Roberts on the subject of "America and the Mideast." These articles contain frequent references, direct and indirect, to intelligence on likely moves in the area by the U.S.S.R and other countries. They also contain an account of the alleged tip-off to Nasser by a CIA employee to the effect that George Allen was about to come to Cairo with a protest note in September of 1955. As the Director knows, this incident also has been the subject of editorial treatment by the Washington Post.

3. I believe the Agency should be fully prepared to deal, at short notice, with a request for an accounting of intelligence performance, notably in the period from early 1955 to the present, including an explanation of the alleged CIA/Nasser incident. If the Director concurs, it is recommended that the appropriate offices be instructed to start compiling the required briefing material, some of which is undoubtedly already available.

[Redacted Signature]

Norman S. Paul
Legislative Counsel

cc: DDCI

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Congressional Investigation of Middle East Policies

CONCUR:

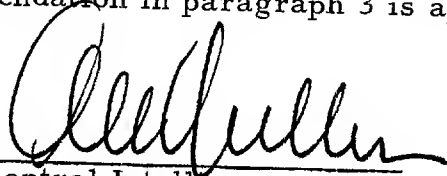
[Redacted Signature Box]

Inspector General

Date

29 Jan. 57

The recommendation in paragraph 3 is approved.



Director of Central Intelligence

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